

A HISTORY OF THE CASE.

The medical history of the President's case when published will form a large volume. At least it has been peculiar in many of its phases, and the circumstances surrounding it have been unusual. A very careful record has been kept of observations made more or less frequently, according to the gravity of the symptoms, from the day of the shooting down to the present. The main points which have been given to the public are the pulse, temperature, and respiration, together with such general facts as the doctors saw fit to embrace in the bulletins, with more or less frequency every day from the date of the shooting, which took place at 9.20 a. m. on the 2d of July. The bullet which made the ugly wound was of 44 calibre, and struck the President about four inches to the right of the spinal column.

THE SHOCK FROM THE WOUND

was so great that the doctors in attendance have said that they never saw a man come so near dying from this cause and live as did the President the first day he was wounded. It seems that the first physician to reach him at the depot was Dr. Smith Townsend, who made a slight examination of the wound—simply enough to determine where the President had been hit. The alarm was given, and an ambulance procured, and he was driven hastily to the White House. The usual nervous effects of the severe shock followed the shooting, and the patient was affected with nausea, vomiting, and extreme prostration during the first day. He was so weak, indeed, that it was not until five o'clock in the evening of that day that his clothes were all removed and he could be put in shape for the beginning of the treatment. It seems that the surprise and panic were so great at the time that there was no one to direct the medical operations, and as the result various Government physicians and leading surgeons who were in the city volunteered or were called in attendance, and a brief examination was made late in the afternoon of the shooting, but

NOTHING WAS DONE TO RELIEVE THE PATIENT.

The ball having entered over the liver, it seemed perfectly natural to the physicians that it had continued in a direct course and passed through that organ; hence for some days it was confidently believed that the liver had been pierced, this probably being one cause why the physicians despaired of the patient's recovery and believed he would die at once. The only examination to determine really what course the ball had taken, and whether the theory of its passing through the liver was correct, was made by Surgeon-General Wales, who thrust his little finger in the wound and discovered that the tenth and eleventh ribs were more or less fractured. So low was he that night that one of the attendants reports when General Swain proposed to clear the room and give the patient air one of the attending physicians said: "There is no use doing anything. There is the death-rattle in his throat now." The General insisted, however, and the room was cleared. The windows were raised, and the patient did rally at 2.45 on the morning of the 3d. He was then able to take and retain a little nourishment. At this time it was not known that the ball had been deflected downward by the rib and had passed, as subsequently was shown, to the satisfaction of the surgeons at least, forward and around through the heavy muscular tissue, and had

ENTERED THE PERITONEAL CAVITY.

The large number of physicians who were in consultation the first day and the following morning formed a body of men too great for the convenient treatment of any patient, and Dr. Bliss was assigned, it is said, by the President himself, to take charge of the case, with authority to select his own corps of advisers. This he did by choosing Surgeon-General Barnes, of the army; Dr. J. J. Woodward, also a medical officer of the army and a well-known and accomplished microscopist, and Robert Reyburn, a physician who had made a favorable record as a surgeon in Government institutions. All through the day of July 3d the fluctuations of pulse, temperature, and respiration were of such a character that the case appeared to be very critical, and it was still feared by many that

DEATH WAS IMMINENT.

At three o'clock on the morning of the 3d so serious did the matter appear that one of the level-headed of the Cabinet officers remarked: "Hope is dead." With so important a case as this, involving the life or death of the President of the United States, it was not strange that the people of the country felt an interest in it, and were not to be satisfied with any treatment that might be afforded by local physicians, be they never so skillful, and it was deemed necessary, in order to silence criticism and satisfy public demand, that consulting surgeons of national reputation be employed to assist the corps in constant attendance, who had more special charge of the case, under the direction of Dr. Bliss. The result was that Drs. Frank H. Hamilton, of New York, and D. Hayes Agnew, an eminent surgeon of Philadelphia, were telegraphed for on the morning of the 4th. They started at once on a special train, furnished by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, and arrived here on the afternoon of the same day. Throughout the day of the 4th of July, and for several days succeeding, the patient was troubled with

INTENSE PAIN IN THE LOWER LIMBS AND FEET, which he himself described as being "like the sticking of a million needles into him." From this it was feared that the spinal nerves had been in some way injured. Toward the night of the 4th, however, there was a turn for the better, and the patient was safely launched into the next day. Drs. Agnew and Hamilton returned immediately to their respective homes, and it transpires that the only knowledge they had of the case at that time was what they had heard from the attending physician, having made no personal examination. It was not until after the examination that Dr. Hamilton was told by Surgeon-General Wales that there had been a fracture of the ribs, and this only came to the knowledge of Dr. Agnew when told by his brother physician upon the train as they were starting out of Washington toward Philadelphia. An understanding of medical ethics, however, will explain in a measure what might appear surprising circumstances in this connection. Dr. Bliss, with his three assistants, were in charge of the case, and Drs. Agnew and Hamilton were but the consult-

ing physicians; they could only advise and approve, making suggestions when asked questions; but they could make for themselves no examination, and

WERE NOT IN THE POSITION TO DICTATE anything as to the treatment of the patient. It is not surprising, therefore, that they knew only such points of the case as it had occurred to the physicians in charge to communicate to them. Whether the advice of such eminent surgeons as Agnew and Hamilton would have been different from what it was on that eventful occasion had they known this important factor of the comminuted rib, with its attendant complications, arising from spicule of bone, it is perhaps impossible now to say. At that time a very little was heard of the rib fracture, but much speculation was indulged in as to the locality of the ball. Whether it had continued directly through the vital parts, had passed downward, or had passed forward and around through the integument, in course of a few days became the all-absorbing question in the discussion of the physicians. On the morning of the 6th of July the pulse for the first time fell as low as 98 in the morning and only touched 104 in the evening; and upon the 7th the leading physician in attendance declared "the chances are MORE THAN EVEN FOR HIS RECOVERY."

Previous to this time they had said there was but one chance in a hundred, and, upon the President asking what his show for life was, he was told this fact, and quietly remarked if there was but the one chance he would take that chance. From the 7th to the 16th there was a slight improvement, and with that it was declared officially that the President was "on the road to convalescence." Still the doctors on the 15th reported, in reply to a question of District Attorney Corkhill, that they "were not prepared to say recovery is certain," and the case of the murderer was put over by the court on that account. On the 21st it was confidently predicted "that the President will be up in two weeks" by the attending physicians; but on the 23d, all of a sudden, there was a serious relapse of the most alarming character. He had rigor and chills and perspiration, which to outside physicians surely indicated that the patient

SHOWED SYMPTOMS OF PYEMIA.

Drs. Agnew and Hamilton were hurriedly sent for again, and on the 20th it was discovered that a pus cavity had been formed some three inches below the spot where the ball had entered, and this complication was relieved by Dr. Agnew by a skillful use of the knife, making an incision some two inches deep below the mouth of the wound, which released a quantity of about two ounces of imprisoned pus. The next day, for the first time, the gravity of the comminution of the rib was developed, and Dr. Agnew at the morning dressing removed with his fingers and forceps a number of sharp splinters of bone, which had been, it was believed up to this time, the aggravating cause of the large pus discharge and the formation of the pocket which had necessitated the incision. The operation was a severe one, but was borne without etherization, the patient being relieved simply by an application of carbolic spray to the parts to which the knife was applied. The President was very much weakened by the shock of this treatment, and to such an extent was it manifest that it showed in his voice, his accelerated pulse, and general debility. On the 27th of July, however,

THERE WAS A MARKED IMPROVEMENT, and on August 2 the President had so far recovered that the attending physicians once more announced that he was on the road to health. August 7 the febrile symptoms were such as to again excite attention, and on the 8th still another surgical operation, which Dr. Agnew termed a "radical" one, was deemed necessary. It was ascertained then, definitely, as stated by the attending physicians, that the track of the bullet had turned from its downward deflection to a forward course just at the lower edge of the twelfth rib, and an incision was made, beginning where the first one started, the knife being passed forward and downward some three inches, meeting the track of the wound below the twelfth rib. This time, owing to the severity of the operation, which lasted an hour, and to the increased strength of the patient's stomach, ether was administered. In addition to the inhalation of the anesthetic the patient's back was benumbed with rigoline spray. The effect of the etherization was most disastrous. Nausea and vomiting succeeded, and it was many days thereafter before the stomach, naturally in a diseased, dyspeptic condition, regained strength sufficient to retain nourishment in a proper way. From this time on may be traced the rapid

DECLINE OF THE PRESIDENT'S VITALITY. Still the doctors thought from the symptoms of the patient within the next two or three days that the operation had been successful in its results, and indeed the patient did rally to such an extent that on the 9th of August he wrote his name for the first time with a pen. On the 10th he signed an important extradition paper, the only official act performed during his illness. On the 11th he wrote a letter to his aged mother, in which he expressed his confidence in his ultimate recovery. On the 12th Dr. Hamilton expressed the opinion that the presence of himself and Dr. Agnew was unnecessary. Still there was an almost unaccountable weakness of the stomach, which increased on the 14th, and on the 15th came nausea,

VOMITING, AND PHYSICAL PROSTRATION, and the council of physicians admitted in the evening bulletin "that the President's condition is, on the whole, less satisfactory." August 16 Dr. Bliss said the council of doctors was satisfied with the condition of the wound itself, that it "had healed from the ball to within three inches of the last incision," and that the whole trouble was with the stomach. From this time forward the treatment of the stomach and the condition of this organ appeared to absorb the principal attention of the physicians and the public. Such was the gravity of the gastric complication that for over forty-eight hours the stomach was unable to retain anything at all, and the patient was nourished by means of enema. But on the 18th he was able, finally, to take and retain a very small portion of liquid nourishment, and from that time it has been constantly increased day by day,

in the meantime, August 24 or 25, the enema being suspended, although not because it was considered unnecessary, as was afterward learned, but because it was no longer retained. Coincident with the return of favorable symptoms of the stomach a new complication arose, which was announced as the appearance of

INFLAMMATION OF THE RIGHT PAROTID GLAND. It seems that this swelling had been noticed for a day or two before it was officially announced, and was not at first thought to be of enough significance to make it a matter of public knowledge. On the 19th the bulletin announced that while the stomach gave marked signs of further improvement, the trouble with the parotid gland had partially disappeared, and the hope of ultimate recovery was materially strengthened. It seems, however, that the facts of the case did not warrant the hope to which they gave rise, for the glandular swelling, instead of going down, actually increased and became more troublesome from day to day, until August 24, when it was decided to make an incision just below and forward of the right ear, in order to forestall suppuration, which it seemed was inevitable. To go back a day or two, a curious phase of the case, which

STARTLED THE PUBLIC, although it is not clear what medical significance it had, became known. It will be remembered that since August 8 the physicians had announced that the wound was healed to within three and a half or four inches of the opening, when the world was astonished on August 20 by the announcement that an obstruction had suddenly been removed, and at the dressing on the evening before a flexible tube had been inserted to a depth of twelve and a half inches forward and downward from the external surface of the last incision. This was announced in the official bulletin of half past twelve o'clock on that day, and from that time forward there was a notable decrease in public faith in the statements of the bulletins that was perhaps unwarranted by the facts. From the time of the incision in the parotid swelling there was no material change except a gradual failing of the patient's strength, albeit he took considerable liquid nourishment, until the night of August 25, when the friends and physicians appeared for the first time to be so discouraged at the symptoms that the President was practically given up and

RECOVERY DESPAIRED OF. The members of the Cabinet met, as usual, at the White House in the evening, and Dr. Bliss made such an announcement to them that they construed it into a practical abandonment of the case. Indeed, it was said that the parotid swelling had now developed into a carbuncle of such malignancy that should it have attacked the patient in the full vigor of his strength his recovery would have been very doubtful. The doctors, therefore, said that this would be the approximate cause of death as far as human judgment could foresee. The nights of August 25 and 26 were passed in restlessness and delirium for the most part, and the next morning, at the daily dressing, it was found that the gland had begun a discharge of pus through the right ear, an occurrence which Dr. Boynton had some days before announced as a very grave and undoubtedly fatal possibility.

The 27th of August opened with hardly a belief that the patient

WOULD SURVIVE THE DAY. The pulse was very variable, going up with great rapidity and then sinking to a mere thread. At the noon bulletin it registered 120, and even Dr. Bliss, who had always been sanguine of recovery, said that he did "not see how the President could recover." The change toward night was as unexpected as it was gratifying. The patient complained of hunger, and asked for solid food, something which had not been given to him for about a week. He was allowed to have some milk toast, which his stomach retained, and the favorable symptoms continued for the following ten days, and the feeling that convalescence was near at hand became general in the public mind. The desire of removal which the President had heretofore expressed now became stronger, and he begged the surgeons to gratify him in this respect. A consultation of all the physicians was held on the 3d of September, and it was finally decided

TO REMOVE THE PATIENT TO LONG BRANCH. The removal from the White House was made on September 6, and at ten minutes past one o'clock in the afternoon of that day the President reached Elberon and was placed in the Franklyn cottage. For a day it seemed as if the bracing sea-breeze had infused new life into the weakened and debilitated system, and the bulletins were hopeful and encouraging. The rally, however, was not sufficient. The vitiated blood asserted its presence more pronounced, for the surgeons had long since dropped the denial of pyemia, and again alarm was felt. This passed away, and on the 8th words of encouragement were again put forth from the sick room, and a card was posted in the Elberon Hotel as follows:

Dr. Bliss has declared, in the presence of Dr. Hamilton, that the President is almost convalescent. Pulse, 94; temperature, normal; respiration, 17. Later in the day another card was posted containing the following:

4 p. m.—Dr. Bliss says: "Nothing in the indications now evident can prevent the President's recovery." 4.10—Dr. Hamilton has just said: "Now he will get well."

On this day also three of the surgeons—Surgeon-General Barnes and Drs. Woodward and Reyburn—

RETIRED FROM THE CASE, leaving only Dr. Bliss in constant attendance, with Drs. Hamilton and Agnew as assistants. The patient seemed to remain *in statu quo*—to be holding his own, as Dr. Bliss expressed it—up to Friday, September 16th. Before that date there had been indications of pulmonary difficulties, and admissions of an abscess upon the lungs were made, with the added statement that there would be no difficulty in controlling this new complication. On the day before the doctors practically admitted that which had heretofore been persistently denied—that the President was suffering from chronic pyemia. This admission came tardily, and the fact of the existence of blood poisoning had been generally believed by the public for weeks before. On the 16th it became evident that

ANOTHER CRISIS WAS IMMINENT.

The pulse, respiration, and temperature rose to the altitudes that told only too plainly the gravity of the situation; and the Cabinet, who had gone away for a brief recreation, lured into security by the fact that the President had for three days successively sat up, or rather had been moved from his bed to a reclining chair, were suddenly summoned to return.

The history of the case for the next three days developed no new features, or, rather, nothing but what the public anticipated. There was a recurrence of the rigors, two of which occurred within a short period of time, and it was evident to even the uneducated that the patient's system was rapidly breaking down. But although the bulletins were, perhaps, more truthful as to facts within the supposed knowledge of the surgeons, yet the unfavorable conditions were made known chiefly through Dr. Boynton, one of the Presidents most intimate friends and attendants, who never, so far as known, sought to deceive the public in any manner. The death, which was sudden, took place upon the night of the 19th; and a full account of the sad event will be found upon the first page.

THE NATION'S DEAD.

As a matter of general interest we give the following list of National Military Cemeteries, together with a statement of the number of interments in each:

Name of Cemetery.	Interments.	
	Known.	Unknown.
Annapolis, Md.	2,285	204
Alexandria, La.	534	772
Alexandria, Va.	3,402	120
Andersonville, Ga.	12,793	921
Antietam, Md.	2,853	1,818
Arlington, Va.	11,915	4,349
Ball's Bluff, Va.	1	24
Barrancas, Fla.	798	657
Baton Rouge, La.	2,469	495
Battle Ground, D. C.	43	43
Beaufort, S. C.	4,748	4,493
Beverly, N. J.	145	7
Brownsville, Tex.	1,417	1,379
Camp Butler, Ills.	1,007	355
Camp Nelson, Ky.	2,477	1,165
Cave Hill, Ky.	3,344	583
Chalmette, La.	6,837	5,674
Chattanooga, Tenn.	7,999	4,963
City Point, Va.	3,778	1,374
Cold Harbor, Va.	673	1,281
Corinth, Miss.	1,789	3,927
Crown Hill, Ind.	681	32
Culpeper, Va.	456	911
Custer Battle Field, M. T.	262	262
Cypress Hills, N. Y.	3,710	76
Danville, Ky.	335	8
Danville, Va.	1,172	155
Fayetteville, Ark.	431	781
Finn's Point, N. J.	2,644	2,644
Florence, S. C.	199	2,799
Fort Donelson, Tenn.	158	511
Fort Gibson, I. T.	215	2,212
Fort Harrison, Va.	239	575
Fort Leavenworth, Kas.	835	928
Fort McPherson, Neb.	152	291
Fort Smith, Ark.	711	1,152
Fort Scott, Kas.	390	161
Fredericksburg, Va.	2,487	12,770
Gettysburg, Pa.	1,967	1,608
Glendale, Va.	234	961
Grafton, W. Va.	634	620
Hampton, Va.	4,930	494
Jefferson Barracks, Mo.	8,584	2,906
Jefferson City, Mo.	349	412
Keokuk, Iowa.	612	33
Knoxville, Tenn.	2,090	1,046
Laurel, Md.	232	6
Lebanon, Ky.	591	277
Lexington, Ky.	805	108
Little Rock, Ark.	3,265	2,337
Logan's Cross Roads, Ky.	345	366
Loudon Park, Md.	1,637	166
Marietta, Ga.	7,188	2,963
Memphis, Tenn.	5,160	8,817
Mexico City, Mo.	284	750
Mobile, Ala.	756	113
Mound City, Ill.	2,505	2,721
Nashville, Tenn.	11,825	4,701
Natchez, Miss.	308	2,780
New Albany, Ind.	2,139	676
New Berne, N. C.	2,177	1,077
Philadelphia, Pa.	1,881	28
Pittsburg Landing, Tenn.	1,229	2,361
Poplar Grove, Va.	2,198	4,001
Port Hudson, La.	596	3,223
Raleigh, N. C.	619	562
Richmond, Va.	842	5,700
Rock Island, Ill.	277	19
Salisbury, N. C.	94	12,032
San Antonio, Tex.	324	167
Seven Pines, Va.	150	1,208
Soldiers' Home, D. C.	5,314	288
Staunton, Va.	233	520
Stone River, Tenn.	3,821	2,324
Vicksburg, Miss.	3,896	12,704
Wilmington, N. C.	710	1,398
Winchester, Va.	2,094	2,365
Woodlawn, Elmir, N. Y.	3,074	16
Yorktown, Va.	748	1,434

171,202 147,568 318,770

Of the whole number of interments indicated above there are about 6,900 known and 1,500 unknown civilians, and 6,100 known and 3,200 unknown confederates. Of these latter the greater portion are buried at Wood Lawn Cemetery, Elmir, N. Y., and Finn's Point Cemetery, near Salem, N. J. The interments at Mexico City are mainly of those who were killed or died in that vicinity during the Mexican War; and include, also such citizens of the United States as may have died in Mexico, and who, under treaty provision have the right of burial therein. From the foregoing it will appear that after making all proper deductions for civilians and confederates, there are gathered in the various places mentioned, the remains of nearly 300,000 men who at one time wore the blue during the late war and who yielded up their lives in defense of the Government which now so graciously cares for their ashes.

The Apache excitement is increasing and troops are marching to the San Carlos reservation. General Wilcox is concentrating his forces in the vicinity of the hostiles.

NEWS ITEMS.

The deposits in the savings banks of New York city have increased ten millions of dollars during the past six months. The aggregate amount held by these institutions is about two hundred millions, and this sum is owned by over half a million of persons, showing an average deposit for each of nearly \$400.

California is now sending more wine to the Atlantic coast than is imported from France; her wine crop last year yielded to the growers nearly \$3,500,000. The curing and packing of raisins, only recently commenced, is already an assured industry, the product last year being reported at 62,000 boxes.

There need be no famine in the United States so long as the West continues to produce the amount of breadstuffs it now does. California made some 40,000,000 bushels of wheat this year, and Oregon has a surplus of nearly 30,000,000, including what was left over from last year. The amount available for export from the Pacific coast is placed at 60,000,000 bushels.

The second class steel armor plated turret ship and ram *Conqueror* was launched September 7th, at Chatham. She is of 6,200 tons, and her engines are of 4,500 horse-power. Her armament will be two twenty-five-ton guns.

ARMY REUNIONS.

The survivors of the One hundred-and-fifty-second New York Volunteers hold their annual Reunion at Richfield Springs, New York, October 4 next.

A soldiers Reunion is to be held at Emporia, Kansas, October 4th next.

REUNION NOTES.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that it rained nearly all day, the Reunion of the Twenty-first, Forty-ninth, Ninety-ninth, and One Hundred and Eighty-ninth Regiments Ohio Volunteer Infantry, held at Findlay, O., September 15, was a grand success. Over 1,200 veterans ate dinner at Wheeler's Hall, where a bountiful repast had been prepared by the ladies of Findlay. In the morning each regiment held a business meeting, electing officers for the ensuing year, &c. In the afternoon a very large crowd assembled in the court-house yard, where General Gibson delivered an oration. He was followed in brief speeches by Colonel Mott and others. The Ninety-ninth and One Hundred and Eighteenth Regiments will hold their Reunion next year at Kenton, the Forty-ninth at Sycamore, and the Twenty-first at East Toledo.

THE REUNION OF THE SEVENTH REGIMENT Indiana Volunteers held at Shelbyville, September 15, was a grand success, notwithstanding the fact it rained steadily all day long. The exercises were held in Blessing's Opera Hall. About sixty members of the old regiment were present. Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Merrill, of Indianapolis, was made chairman, and Daniel M. Ransdell, secretary. A welcome address was made by Mayor Allen, who extended the freedom of the city to the visiting veterans, after which an adjournment was had to Sidlinger's Hall for dinner, where a bounteous feast had been prepared by the ladies of the city. At two o'clock Adjutant James L. Mitchell, ex-Mayor of Indianapolis; Colonel Merrill, Major George W. Grubbs, and others, addressed the veterans. Altogether it was a very pleasant day, despite the inclemency of the weather. The next Reunion of the regiment will be held at Danville, Hendricks county.

THE SIXTH annual camp Reunion of the surviving members of Company E of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was held at Esby's Grove, two miles west of Wooster, September 15. About forty members left this afternoon in carriages for their camp-ground with flying colors and beating drums. They remained in camp two days.

THE SOLDIERS and sailors' Reunion at Wellsboro Pa., September 15 and 16, was a decided success, over 10,000 having registered, while there were many who did not hand in their names. Only a few of the distinguished guests who were expected arrived, but the soldiers had a good time without them. The opening salute Thursday was spoiled by the bursting of the cannon, which, fortunately, hurt no one. Two hundred tents were put up and the name of Camp Garfield was adopted. About three o'clock rations were served to a very hungry army of about a thousand. During the afternoon and evening speeches were made by the soldiers and men of the town and five bands furnished music. In the evening camp-fires were lighted and the men joined in singing "Marching Through Georgia" and "John Brown," making the camping with music. Next morning the soldiers formed in camp and marched through the streets to the public park, where they formed in a hollow square, and after a few moments listened to speeches from the guests in attendance, General Thomas L. Kane and General James A. Beaver, they being the only military men who appeared. After the speeches the men went back to camp, which was broken up in the afternoon. There was some disappointment at the absence of Governor Hoyt, who was to review the men, but they were good-natured and well behaved throughout.

THE old soldiers of Stephenson county held their annual Reunion in Freeport, Ill., September 16. The weather was very unfavorable, but notwithstanding that fact the attendance was very large, many persons coming from abroad. General Logan was advertised to be present, but telegraphed his inability to come. The procession formed at Grand Army Hall, and, with Captain Phil. Arno as marshal, marched to Armory Hall, where the exercises were conducted. The first order of business was the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result: President, Captain William Stewart; secretary, W. W. Lowiz; treasurer, Captain J. P. Reel. The first speech was delivered by General Smith D. Atkins. Speeches followed by other gentlemen who were present, music being furnished at intervals by the two bands.

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